MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether there have not been such disabilities and lack of opportunities, in the matter of commerce and industries, in the case of Nairs ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : The Government are not aware of any such disability or lack of opportunity.

Nomination of Judges of the Panchayat Courts.

344. **MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*) : (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the principles, if any, on which Government nominate particular individuals as judges of the Panchayat Courts ?

(*b*) Will they be pleased to state whether they make such nomination solely on the principle of communal representation ?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to take steps whereby provision may be made for the election of at least two-thirds of the total number of judges by an electorate to be constituted in each Panchayat area ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The principles kept in view in the nomination of Panchayat Court Judges are that the persons should be men with knowledge of local conditions, enthusiasm for public work and the necessary education and character.

(*b*) Not solely ; but as far as possible the representation of communities is kept in view.

(*c*) The question requires mature consideration. It is therefore not possible to give an immediate reply.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Are the Government aware that there is provision in the Village Panchayat Regulation itself enabling the Government to recruit judges by election ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : There is provision in the Village Panchayat Regulation empowering the Government to make rules for that purpose.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : Will the Government be pleased to state how long is it since the Village Panchayat Regulation came into force ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : I presume the member means the Regulation dealing with the Village Panchayat Courts ?

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : Yes.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : The information is not now before me. I must look up and find out.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*) : In view of the fact that these courts have been in existence for the last ten years, will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of giving effect to the provisions of the Regulation regarding the election of judges ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : The

sion, as I said, is only a permissive one. It is not obligatory.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): That is exactly why I want to know whether, in view of the fact that these courts have been in existence for the last ten years, the Government will consider the desirability of filling up these judgeships by election in accordance with the rules framed under the Regulation.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): The Government will consider the matter.

Income Tax.

345. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): (*a*) Is it a fact that there is a strong dissatisfaction amongst the merchants that their accounts are not properly looked into, that they are indiscriminately assessed and that their grievances are not properly heard by the income tax authorities?

(*b*) In spite of the "acute trade depression and the collapse of several business concerns" in 1098, "the disturbance to trade and production" in 1099, and "the dislocation of trade and business" in 1100, will the Government be pleased to state how they were able to make an excess of ·67 lakh of rupees over the budgetted estimate for 1100 under income tax from business other than tea?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Government are not aware.

(*b*) The Government have nowhere stated that there was dislocation of trade and business in 1100. [*Vide* reply to interpellation No. 152 given at the meeting of the Council held on the 7th November 1924]. Nor is the Member correct when he says that there was an excess of ·67 lakh of rupees over the budget estimate for 1100, exclusively from income tax from business other than tea. The Member's statement is evidently based on the revised estimate for 1100. The increased figure shown in that estimate was warranted by the increased revenue during the first eight months of 1100. But the actual receipts for that year show that there was an increase of Rs. 1,28,914 under income tax from tea industry and a decrease of Rs. 18,852 under income tax from business other than tea, as compared with the figures for 1099.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know from the Member whether it is not stated in the Financial Secretary's speech that "there was disloction of trade and business in 1100"?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): That relates to the actuals of 1099 and not of 1100.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): My question is whether it has been stated there or not?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): If the Member will kindly read the speech carefully, he will see that it has been treated in relation to the year 1099.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly